**Penney’s Wood Minutes 23 February 2025**

**Present**: Janine Brodie (Chair), Judith Dobson, Julie King, Chris McCaughey, Helen Cassidy, Alastair Kerr, Marieanne White, Wille Thompson, Hazel Cameron

**Apologies**, Gill Kerr (Secretary), Lesley and James Graham, Helen Davidson

1. **Nesting Boxes and Hogilos**

Janine is expecting delivery of nesting boxes and hogilos from Tayside Biodiversity Project in the next 2 weeks. The Project Officer, Nick McKinley is available to come to the woodland on 8 March to advise on the installation and suitable locations for these items.

Tayside Biodiversity Partnership has organised an event in Millbridge Hall on 1 March 2025. Janine is attending this and will ask Nick Mckinley to confirm the equipment needed to install the nest boxes. Julie and Helen both offered ladders, volunteers will be asked to bring screws, nails and hammers.

**ACTION:** All available on 8 March from 10-12 to install nest boxes to turn up armed with tools for putting up nest boxes

**ACTION**: Marieanne and Helen to advertise event on Facebook/Instagram and advise Janine of volunteers.

1. **Wall**

Robert Dunlop (Drystane Dyke Group) will start the wall building in the middle of March. It will take one or two days to complete the section between the main gate and the Sycamore tree. All welcome to come along to learn and help. Janine and Willie will contact list of volunteers to advise them of the date

**ACTION**: Wille to confirm date and contact volunteers. Marieanne to advertise event on Fossoway Forum and advise Janine of any volunteers.

1. **Work Party**

It was agreed that any additional work required in the woodland would take place during the nest boxes and wall building days. These include:

* Addition of wood chip to paths - Judith to ask Rick for more wood chip.

**ACTION**: All available to help spreading of woodchip and Marieanne to advertise for volunteers.

* New strimmed path to be maintained and poorly growing trees in this area to be removed. These are mainly Scots Pine trees.
* Bridge near the Wallace’s to be checked

It was noted that the hardcore/gravel has improved the ground at the entrance and will need to be replenished in the future.

PKC flood engineers advised that the silt level in the ditch should be checked after flooding, otherwise all OK.

1. **Equipment Maintenance**

The mower was purchased on 28/8/20 and has had one service. It was agreed that it should be serviced every 2 years given its useage. Willie has been quoted £154 +VAT + parts for a service.

**ACTION** Willie to arranged for the mower to be serviced

Stuart fitted the strimmer with the brush cutter for cutting rough grass. Wille suggested getting another strimmer fitted with the nylon cord for cutting around the benches etc as the head is better left unchanged. It was agreed that we should bid for funding for an additional strimmer from Fossoway Benefit Fund.

**ACTION** Janine and Willie to submit bid for funding for a new strimmer to the Fossoway Benefit Fund.

Willie will contact all on the mower rota to see if they are happy to continue and ask for volunteers for a strimming rota. Additional volunteers for both mower and strimmer rotas to be sought from the list of volunteers.

**ACTION** Willie to update mowing and strimming rotas

1. **Legal Matters**

The paperwork for the transfer of the new plot to Penneys Wood was received in November. Janine has now asked Eric Williamson if he can provide the map and front page which appear to be missing from the documents for the main woodland.

Julie has asked SSE if they plan to use the telegraph pole in the woodland and will keep us updated.

1. **Forward Plans**

Janine, Judith and Marieanne have drafted a Management Plan for Penneys Wood outlining future tasks. Janine would like all to contribute to the plan so will send it out for comments and suggestions before the next meeting on 28 April.

**ACTION**: Janine to circulate draft Management Plan.All to send comments back to Janine before the next meeting**.**

DONM: Sunday 27 April 2025 at 2pm in Penney’s Wood (weather permitting)